THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of	
Inventors: Marianne HICKEY et al.	: Confirmation No. 7400
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U.S. Patent Application No. 09/994,915	: Group Art Unit: 2142
	:
Filed: November 27, 2001	: Examiner: Cheryl M. REID
	:
For: ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES	

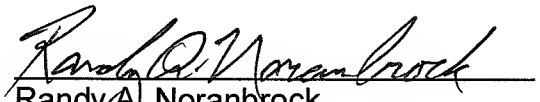
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

In response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed February 13, 2007, attached are corrected Status of Claims and Claim Appendix. The $500 statutory fee for the Appeal Brief was paid on May 23, 2006. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fees not otherwise provided for to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne HICKEY et al.

By: 
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III. Status of Claims

A. Total Number of Claims in Application

1. There are a total of 17 claims in the application, which are identified as claims 1-17.

B. Status of all the claims

1. Claims canceled – 0
2. Claims withdrawn from consideration but not canceled – 0
3. Claims pending – 1-17
4. Claims allowed – 0
5. Claims rejected – 1-17

C. Claims on Appeal

1. Claims on appeal are claims 1-17

IX. Claims Appendix

1. A method of enhancing communication between a user using a first device and a content server with which the user is interacting through an interfacing handler, wherein:

the communication is managed as a session having one or more participants, the user, via the first device, being an initial participant to the session;

the user, using the first device, instructs an output device to join the session, session-joining information being passed from the first device to the output device;

the output device uses the session-joining information to join the session as a participant; and

the interfacing handler sends content and/or content references from the content server to the participants in the session, the output device outputting for the user at least some of the content.

2. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the devices register their communication capabilities with the session and the interfacing handler sends content and/or content references from the content server to the devices taking account of their registered capabilities.

3. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the interfacing handler sends content from the content server to the output device according to authorisation information specified by the user.

4. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the content server provides content in multiple media types and the output device is capable of handling one or more media types not handled by the first device.

5. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the interfacing handler is a browser arranged to interpret pages with markup tags provided by the content server.

6. A method according to claim **5**, wherein the first device is a voice communication device and the interfacing handler is a multimodal browser capable of handling voice markup pages provided by the content server.

7. A method according to claim **6**, wherein the first device is a cellular phone.

8. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the first device passes on the session-joining information using a short-range communication link.

9. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the output device is named upon session-joining with a name that is known to both the user and the interfacing handler.

10. A method according to claim **1**, wherein the user can communicate with the output device via the first device and the interfacing handler.

11. A user communication device comprising:

means for setting up a communications session with an interfacing handler through which the user device can receive content from a content server;

means for assembling session-joining data for enabling an output device to join the communication session by that device passing the session-joining data to the interfacing handler; and

means for sending the session-joining information to the output device independently of the interfacing handler.

12. A device according to claim **11**, wherein said means for sending the session-joining information is a short-range communication subsystem.

13. A device according to claim **11**, wherein said means for assembling session-joining data comprises means for receiving a session identifier from the interfacing handler.

14. A peripheral device comprising:

peripheral functionality;

a short-range communications subsystem for receiving session-joining data over a short-range communications link; and

a communications subsystem for sending the session-joining information to an interfacing handler to join an existing communication session and to receive content for output via the peripheral functionality of the device.

15. A peripheral device according to claim **14**, wherein the communications subsystem is operative to send along with said session-joining information, data on the types of content that the peripheral device can handle.

16. A voice browser service system for providing voice-form content to a user device, the service system comprising:

a session manager operative to set up a communication session with the user device as an initial member, and to pass the user device a session identifier for the session;

means for retrieving content from a content server and delivering at least some of that content as voice signals to the user device;

receiving means for receiving, from an output device, a joining request including said session identifier and capability information concerning what types of content the output device can handle, the receiving means being operative to pass the request to the session manager, and the session manager being responsive to the request to join the output device to the communication session and register its capability information; and

means for sending to the output device, whilst joined to the communication session, elements of the said content retrieved from the content server that are of a type which, according to the device's registered capability information, the output device can handle.

17. A user communication device comprising:

a processor for (a) setting up a communications session with an interfacing handler through which the user device can receive content from a content server and (b) assembling session joining data for enabling an output device to join the communication session by that device passing the session joining data to the interfacing handler; and

a transmitter connected to be responsive to the processor for sending the session joining information to the output device independently of the interfacing handler.